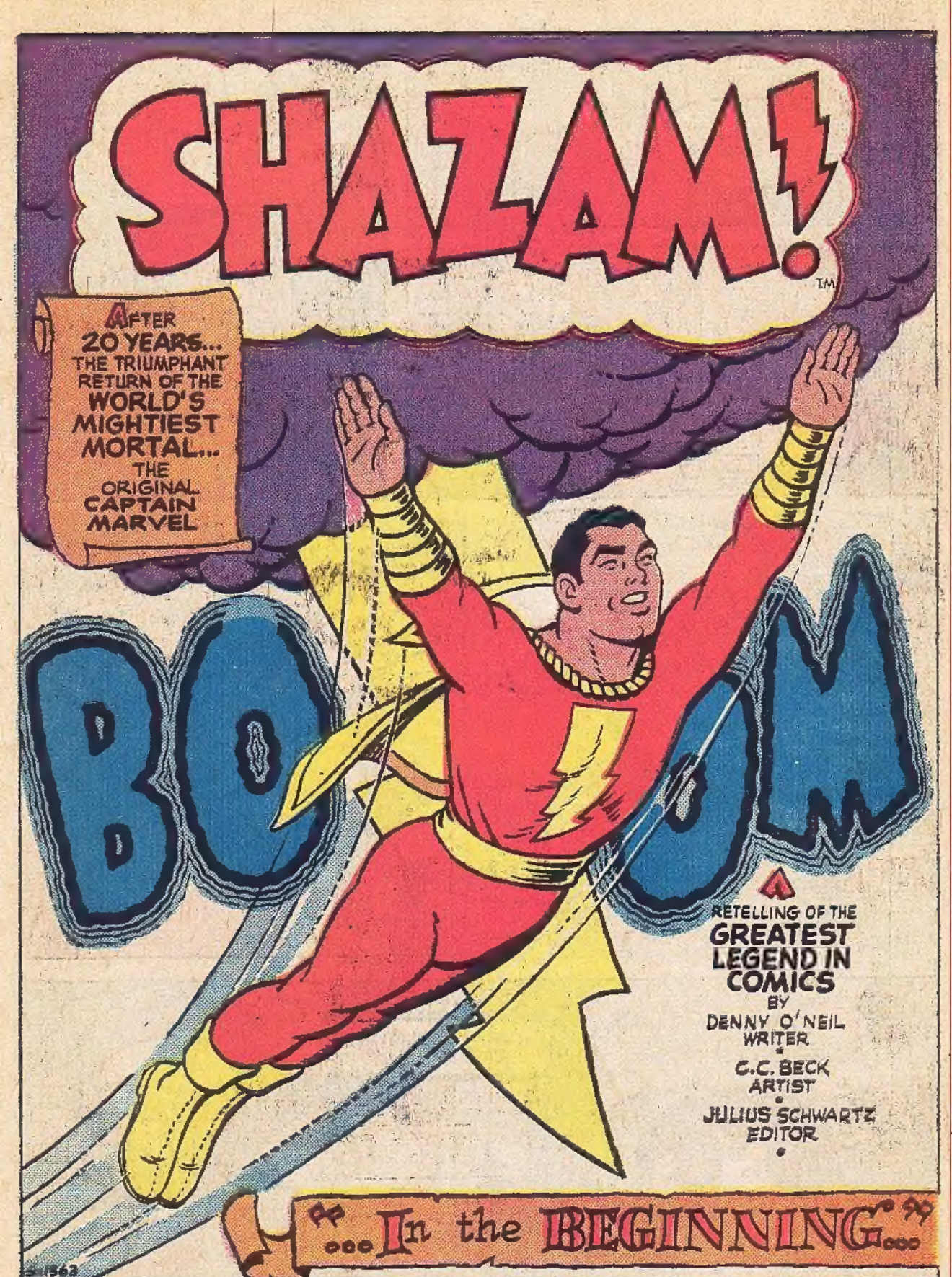
1st BRAND-NEW ISSUE!
DC
SHAZAM
WITH ONE MAGIC WORD...
20c
SHAZAM!
TM
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
NO. 1 FEB. 30688
THE ORIGINAL CAPTAIN MARVEL
TM
BILLY BATSON, SAY THE MAGIC WORD...
...AND BECOME THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL!
BOOM
C.C. BECK
S-1397



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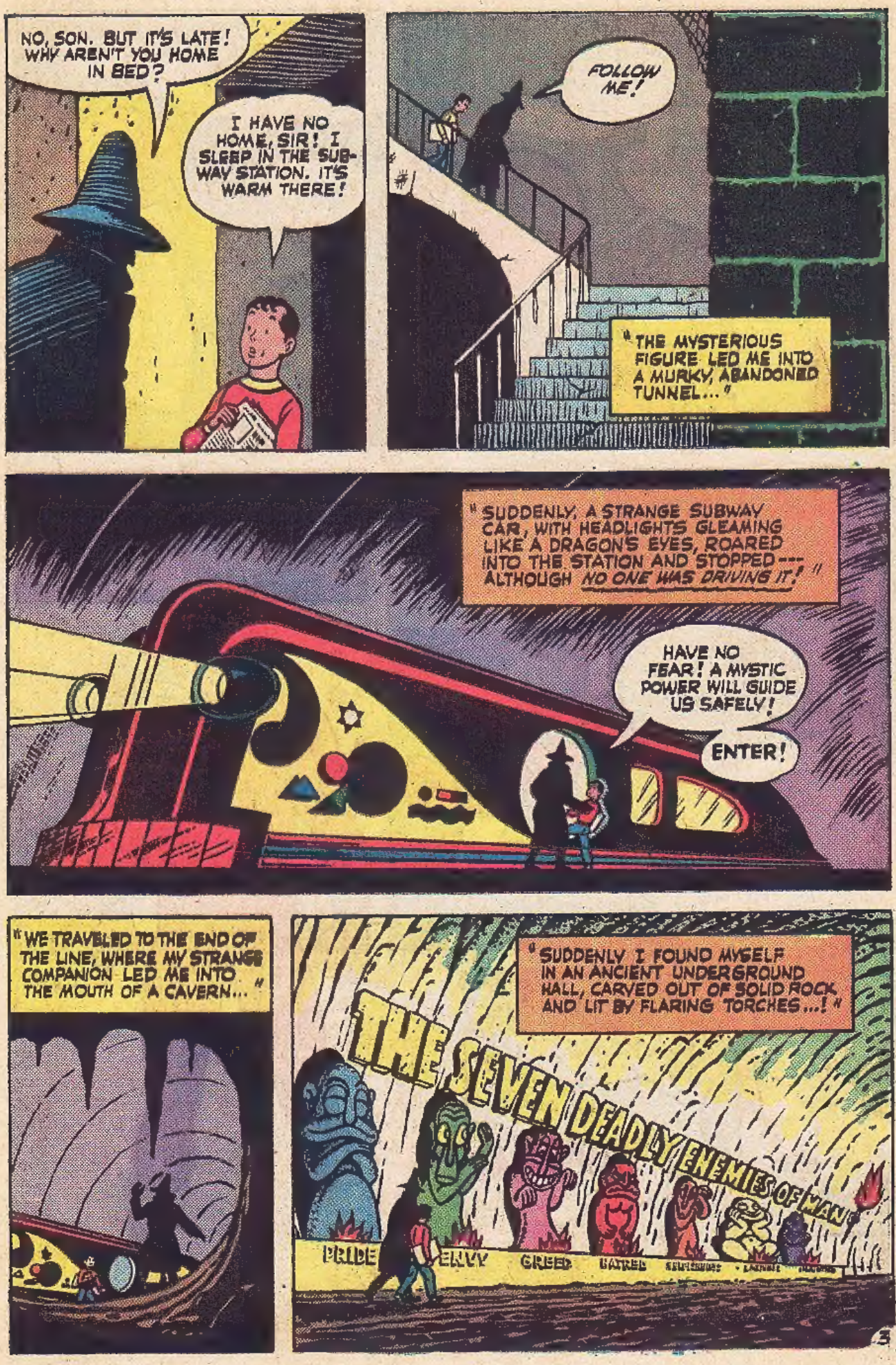
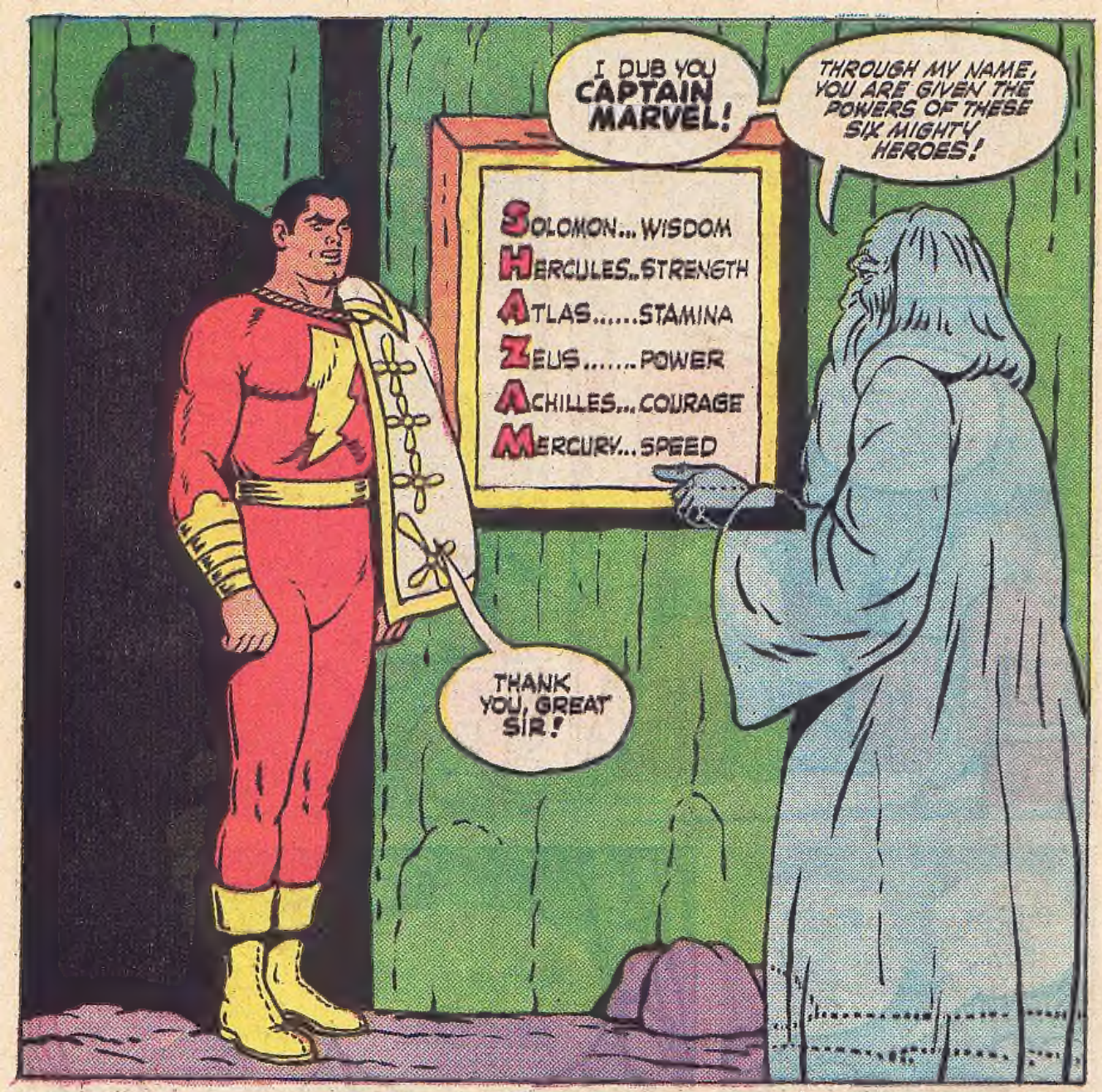
ON A CITY STREET...
HELLO THERE, MR. BINDER!
HELLO, BILLY! HOW'SA BOY?
BILLY BATSON?
YES?
B-B-BUT YOU'VE BEEN MISSING! ...FOR TWENTY YEARS!
A-AND YOU HAVEN'T AGED! YOU'RE STILL A KID!
HOW COME?
IT'S A LONG STORY, MR. BINDER! YOU JUST WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT!
I MUST BE FLIPPING MY GOURD!
I DON'T BLAME HIM FOR WONDERING! I ALMOST CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT'S HAPPENED MYSELF!
IT ALL STARTED A LONG TIME AGO! I WAS A NEWSBOY, HAWKING PAPERS AT A SUBWAY ENTRANCE ONE COLD NIGHT...
"...WHEN I HEARD THIS VOICE CALLING ME!"
SUBWAY
PSSST! LAD-COME HERE!
YESSIR! WANT A PAPER, SIR?
2


NO, SON. BUT IT'S LATE! WHY AREN'T YOU HOME IN BED?
I HAVE NO HOME, SIR! I SLEEP IN THE SUBWAY STATION. IT'S WARM THERE!
FOLLOW ME!
"THE MYSTERIOUS FIGURE LED ME INTO A MURKY, ABANDONED TUNNEL..."
"SUDDENLY, A STRANGE SUBWAY CAR, WITH HEADLIGHTS GLEAMING LIKE A DRAGON'S EYES, ROARED INTO THE STATION AND STOPPED--- ALTHOUGH NO ONE WAS DRIVING IT!"
HAVE NO FEAR! A MYSTIC POWER WILL GUIDE US SAFELY!
ENTER!
"WE TRAVELED TO THE END OF THE LINE, WHERE MY STRANGE COMPANION LED ME INTO THE MOUTH OF A CAVERN..."
"SUDDENLY I FOUND MYSELF IN AN ANCIENT UNDERGROUND HALL, CARVED OUT OF SOLID ROCK AND LIT BY FLARING TORCHES...!"
THE SEVEN DEADLY ENEMIES OF MAN
PRIDE
ENVY
GREED
HATRED
LAZINESS

"WHEN WE CAME TO A MAJESTIC FIGURE ON A GREAT THRONE, MY MYSTERIOUS GUIDE VANISHED..."
I AM SHAZAM, AN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN WIZARD. FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS I HAVE FOUGHT EVIL, BILLY BATSON.
H-HOW DID YOU KNOW MY NAME?
BECAUSE I KNOW EVERYTHING! BUT NOW, MY TIME IS UP! AND I HAVE CHOSEN YOU TO BE MY SUCCESSOR!
M-ME, SIR?
"A THUNDERCLAP FROM THE ENDS OF THE UNIVERSE... AN EYE-SEARING BOLT OF MAGIC LIGHTNING... AND I FOUND MYSELF TRANSFORMED INTO...
BOOOOM
"...THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL!"
YES! YOU ARE PURE OF HEART!
SPEAK MY NAME!
SHAZAM!
4

SNAP!
"AND IN THE SAME UNBELIEVABLE INSTANT, THE BLOCK OF STONE THAT HAD HUNG BY A THREAD ABOVE THE WIZARD'S THRONE CRASHED DOWNWARD!"
SO IT IS WRITTEN THAT I MUST GO!
KRASSHH
H-HOLY MOLEY!
P-POOR OLD GUY...
OH, DO NOT MOURN FOR ME!
ALTHOUGH MY BODY IS NO MORE, MY SPIRIT LIVES ON IN ETHEREAL FORM!
SHOULD YOU EVER NEED ME, YOU HAVE ONLY TO LIGHT THIS BRAZIER AND I SHALL RETURN!
5



THAT WAS THE BEGINNING!
FOR THE NEXT FEW YEARS, I MADE GOOD MY PROMISE... I MEAN CAPTAIN MARVEL'S PROMISE!
I FOUGHT EVILDOERS EVERYWHERE ...AND I USUALLY WON!

FOR THE STORY OF CAPTAIN MARVEL'S STRANGE, TWENTY-YEAR ABSENCE, CHECK OUT THE NEXT STORY... QUICK! THE EXCITEMENT'S JUST BEGUN!

SHAZAM!
T.M.
IS THE MAGIC WORD FOR THE
ORIGINAL CAPTAIN MARVEL
IT'S BEEN ONLY SECONDS SINCE WE LEFT YOUNG BILLY BATSON, BUT IN THOSE FEW MOMENTS, HE HAS HEARD THE SOUND OF GUNSHOTS!...
HOLY MOLEY! THEY'RE COMING FROM THE NEXT STREET!
SHAZAM!
BANG
BANG
NOW LET'S SEE WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT!
BOOM
POW!
POW!
"THE WORLD'S WICKEDEST PLAN"
STORY BY- DENNY O'NEIL
ART BY- C.C. BECK
EDITING BY- JULIUS SCHWARTZ
1

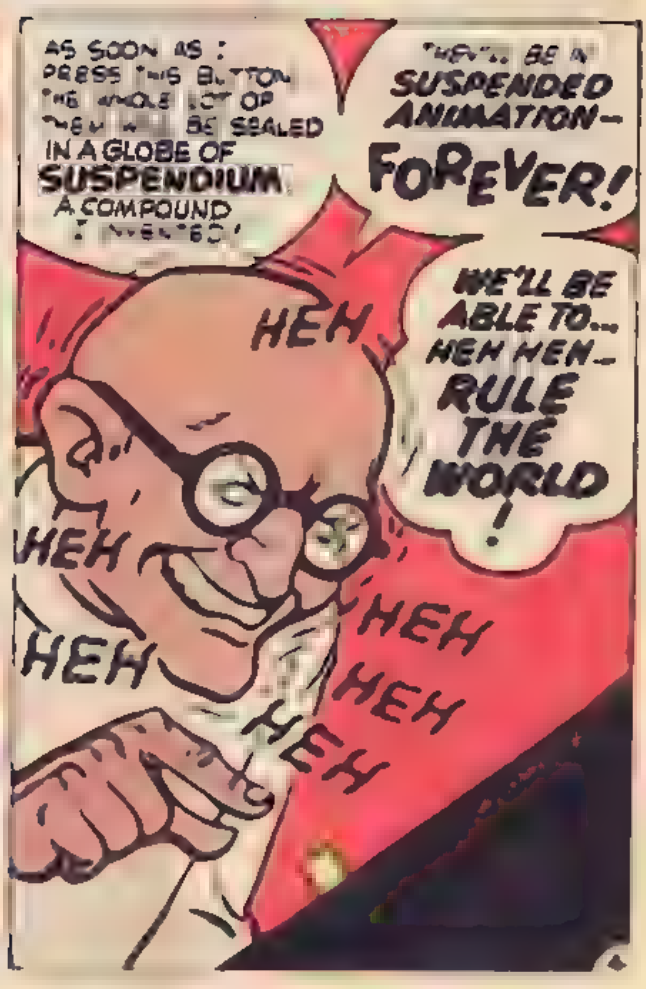
CRIMINALS... RUNNING FROM THE POLICE! I SEE THINGS HAVEN'T CHANGED MUCH IN THE TWENTY YEARS I'VE BEEN AWAY!
KABANG KABANG
SCREECH
THERE ARE STILL GOOD GUYS AND BAD GUYS...
...AND I'M STILL ON THE SIDE OF THE GOOD GUYS!
KRASSH
YIPES! A HUMAN ROADBLOCK!
CH-CHARLIE... DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?
BAM
KAPOW
YEH, JULIE... EITHER THE BULLETS ARE BOUNCING OFF HIM... OR WE'RE USING VERY INFERIOR BULLETS!
YEP... THINGS HAVEN'T CHANGED MUCH AT ALL!
GOTCHA!
THANKS A LOT, MISTER.
NO THANKS ARE NECESSARY, OFFICER-- I WAS JUST DOING MY JOB!
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING...
2

MIND TELLING ME WHY YOU WERE CHASING THESE MEN?
THEY STOLE A LOT OF ELECTRONIC SUPPLIES FROM A WAREHOUSE -- TRANSISTORS AND STUFF LIKE THAT!
WE FIGURE THEY'RE WORKING FOR SOMEONE ELSE!
HMMMM... I'LL BET I KNOW WHO THE SOMEONE ELSE IS!
PARDON ME, SIR, AREN'T YOU CAPTAIN MARVEL?
SURE HE IS! I REMEMBER HIM FROM WHEN I WAS A LITTLE KID!
HE DOESN'T LOOK A DAY OLDER!
WHERE'VE YOU BEEN, CAPTAIN?
YEH-- TELL US WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU!
NOT NOW, FOLKS! I HAVE WORK TO DO--
AND BESIDES, IF I TOLD YOU, YOU'D JUST NEVER BELIEVE IT!
THEY WOULDN'T, EITHER! I WAS THERE -- AND I'M NOT SURE I BELIEVE IT!
I REMEMBER; THE WHOLE MARVEL FAMILY WAS GATHERED OUTSIDE CITY HALL...
"MY SISTER, MARY MARVEL, CAPTAIN MARVEL, JUNIOR, AND I WERE BEING HONORED BY THE MAYOR. ALL OUR FRIENDS WERE THERE..."

SUDDENLY WE WERE CAUGHT IN A STRANGE RAY AND PULLED INTO THE SKY, ALONG WITH SOME OTHERS IN THE AREA!
HOLY MOLEY!

"...BEFORE ANY OF US COULD ACT, WE WERE DRAWN INTO DEEP SPACE! I CAUGHT A GLIMPSE OF A FAMILIAR SPACE SHIP..."

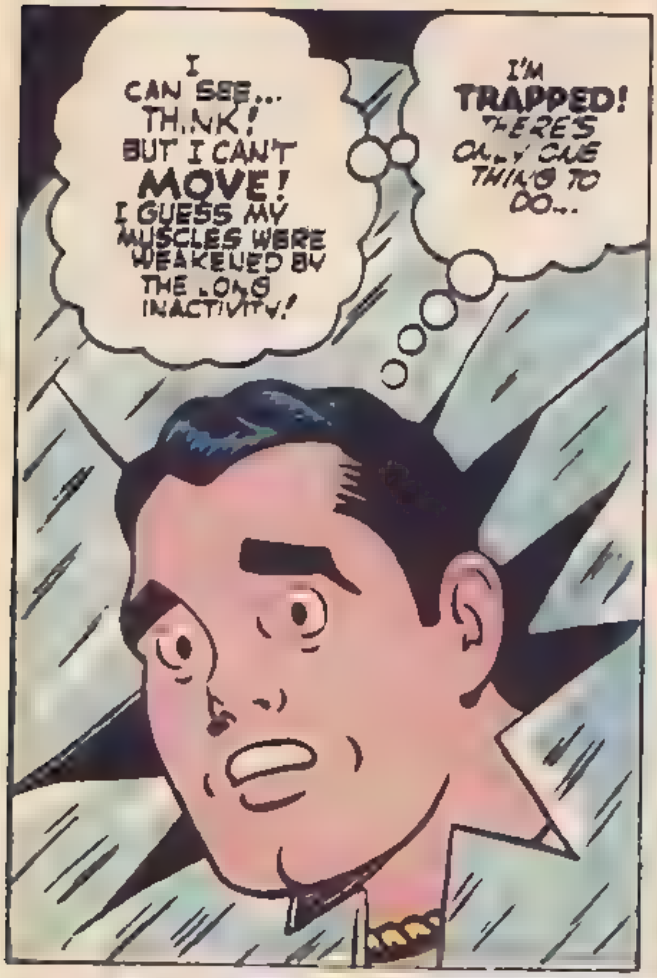
AND I KNEW WHO WAS INSIDE — THE WORLD'S GREATEST ENEMIES — DOCTOR MATEUS BOOOO SIVANA — HIS DAUGHTER GEORGIA, AND HIS SLIMY SON SIVANA JUNIOR!
WE DID IT, KIDS! OUR PORTER TRANS PORTER RAY HAS GOT THE BIG RED CHEESE! HEH HEH HEH!
TO SAY NOTHING OF THAT NUTTY MARY - THE LITTLE RED CHEESE!
HEH
HEH HEH
AND THAT BRATTY JUNIOR---THE LITTLE BLUE CHEESE!

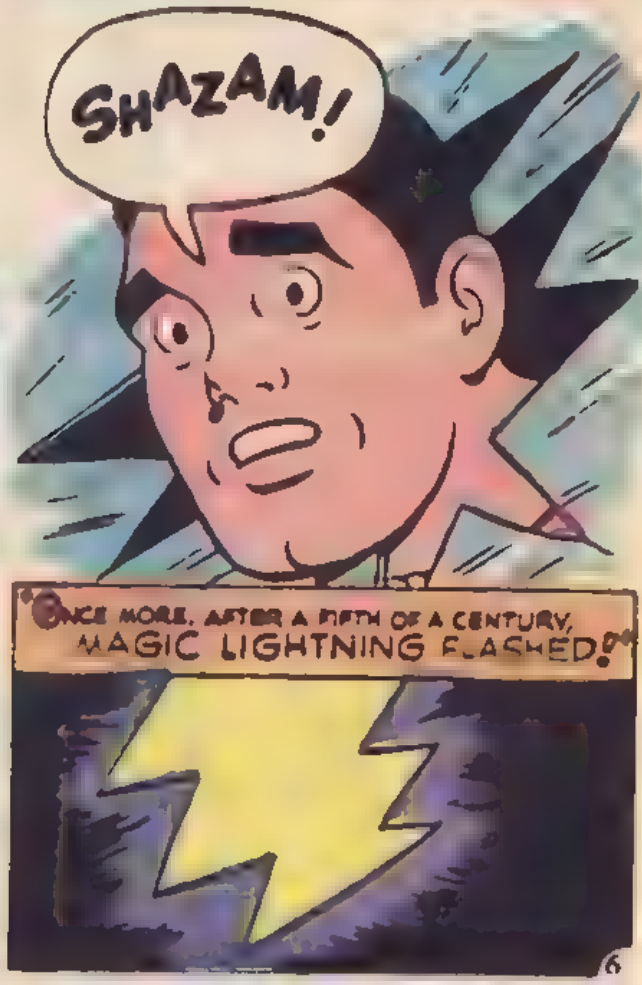

AS SOON AS I PRESS THIS BUTTON THE WHOLE LOT OF THEM WILL BE SEALED IN A GLOBE OF SUSPENDIUM A COMPOUND I INVENTED!
THEY'LL BE IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION— FOREVER!
WE'LL BE ABLE TO... HEH HEH— RULE THE WORLD!
HEH
HEH
HEH
HEH
HEH
HEH

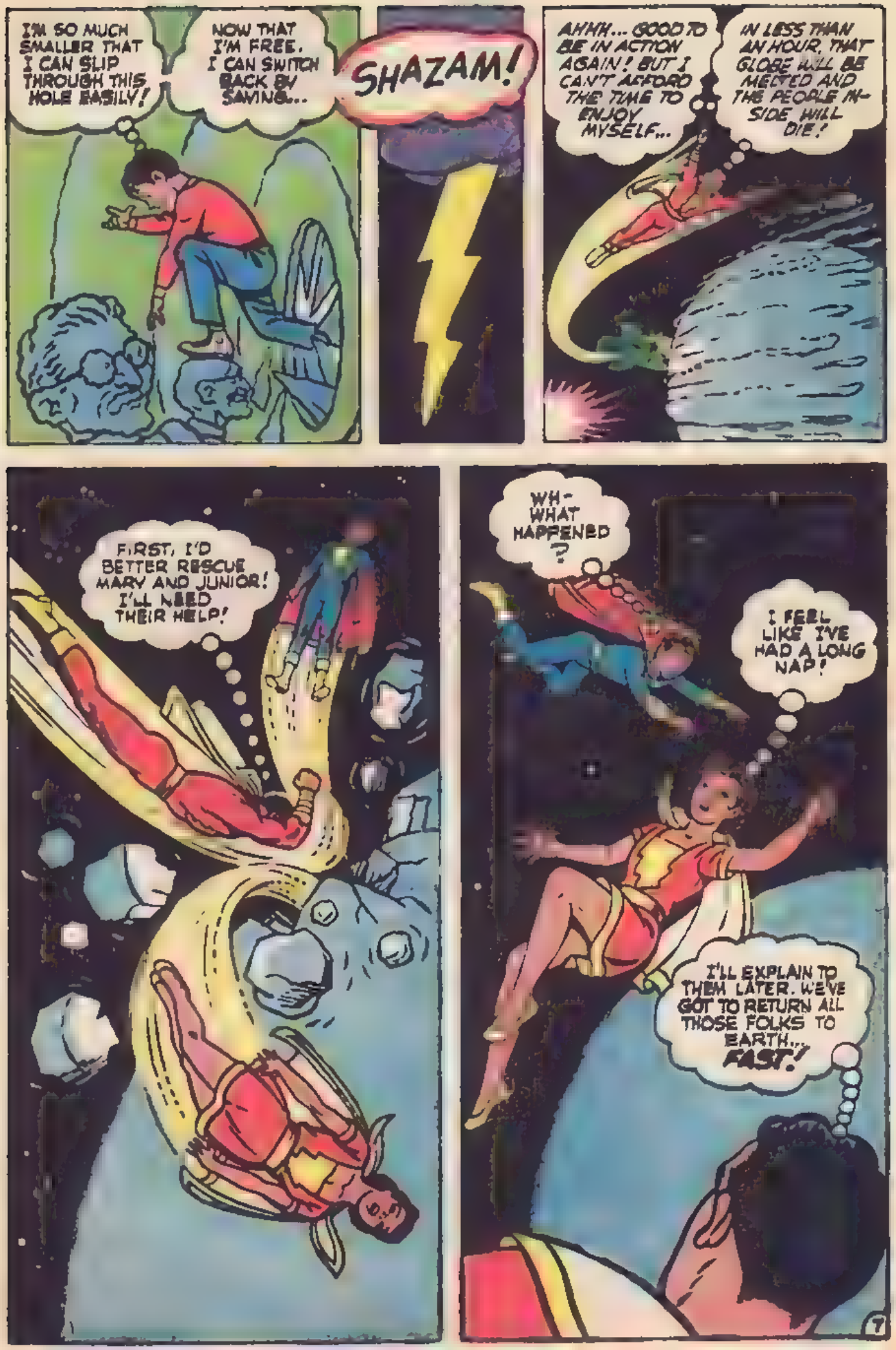
INTO SUSPENDED ANIMATION WITH THEM!
I'LL TEACH THEM NOT TO INTERFERE WITH ME... THE RIGHTFUL RULER OF THE UNIVERSE!
ZZT
ZZZ
NICE GOING, POP!
DOLT! WATCH WHO YOU'RE SLAPPING!
SMAK
YOU KNOCKED ME INTO THE CONTROLS!
NOW THEY'RE JAMMED! I CAN'T STEER THE SHIP!
WE'RE HEADING FOR THE SUSPENDIUM GLOBE!
WE CAN'T STOP!
"THEN SIVANA'S CRAFT H T KNOCKING THE HUGE BALL IN WHICH WE WERE TRAPPED OUT OF ITS ORBIT..."

"INSTANTLY THE GHASTLY SUSPENDIUM PUT THE SIVANAS INTO SUSPENDED ANIMATION, TOO! THE SHIP HAD CRASHED NEAR ME AND I FOUND MY HEAD ONLY INCHES AWAY FROM SIVANA'S. NO MATTER, THOUGH... WE WERE ALL HELD MOTIONLESS!"

"FOR NEARLY 2 DECADES WE ORBITED THE SUN, DRAWING SLOWLY CLOSER AND CLOSER TO IT."
EVENTUALLY, WE CAME TO WITHIN A MILLION MILES OF THE BLAZING ORB AND THE HEAT BEGAN VAPORIZING THE SUSPENDIUM. I AWOKE AND

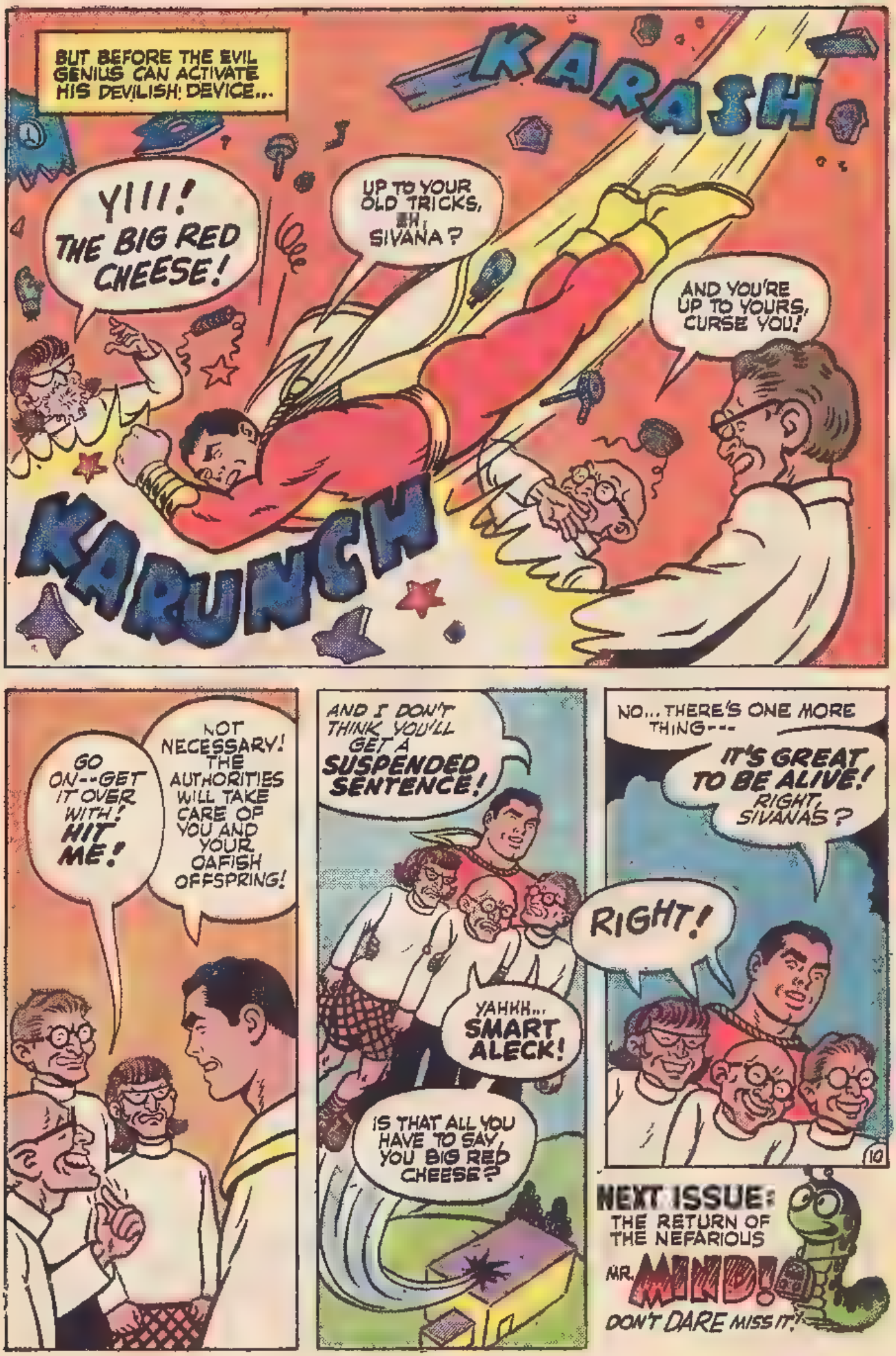

I CAN SEE... THINK! BUT I CAN'T MOVE! I GUESS MY MUSCLES WERE WEAKENED BY THE LONG INACTIVITY!
I'M TRAPPED! THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO...


SHAZAM!
"ONCE MORE, AFTER A FIFTH OF A CENTURY, MAGIC LIGHTNING FLASHED!"


I'M SO MUCH SMALLER THAT I CAN SLIP THROUGH THIS HOLE EASILY!
NOW THAT I'M FREE, I CAN SWITCH BACK BY SAYING...
SHAZAM!
AHHH... GOOD TO BE IN ACTION AGAIN! BUT I CAN'T AFFORD THE TIME TO ENJOY MYSELF...
IN LESS THAN AN HOUR, THAT GLOBE WILL BE MELTED AND THE PEOPLE INSIDE WILL DIE!
FIRST, I'D BETTER RESCUE MARY AND JUNIOR! I'LL NEED THEIR HELP!
WH-WHAT HAPPENED?
I FEEL LIKE I'VE HAD A LONG NAP!
I'LL EXPLAIN TO THEM LATER. WE'VE GOT TO RETURN ALL THOSE FOLKS TO EARTH... FAST!
7

"THE SIVANAS CAME TO AND ESCAPED BUT WE COULD ALWAYS CATCH UP WITH THE MAD SCIENTISTS... WE ALWAYS HAD BEFORE! FUN OR MARVELO! PUSHED THE BALL OF SUSPENDIUM BACK TO EARTH.
ALL TOGETHER NOW--
PUNCH!
KA-WHOMP!
"DAZED, THE CITIZENS CAME TO, UNAWARE THAT TWENTY YEARS HAD PASSED WHILE THEY HADN'T AGED A SECOND!
GOSH, MY JOINTS ARE STIFF! MUST BE RHEUMATISM!
YOU'RE GETTING OLD, PA!
8

AS I SAID, THE STORY IS UNBELIEVABLE! YET IT'S TRUE!
MARY AND JUNIOR HAVE GONE TO SEARCH FOR THE SVANAS IN SPACE SHIP
MY HUNCH IS THEY HEADED FOR EARTH SVANAS USED TO HAVE A COLONY IN THESE MOUNTAINS
AND UNLESS I'M VERY MUCH MISTAKEN THIS IS WHERE I'LL FIND 'EM!
THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL FOR MY BABY
I WISH THOSE IDIOTS I SENT TO STEAL THE ELECTRONIC PARTS WOULD COME BACK!
I'M ANXIOUS TO GET STARTED ON MY NEW SCHEME TO HEH HEH— RULE THE WORLD!
CAN'T YOU GO AHEAD WITHOUT THE PARTS POP?
I SUPPOSE SO MY DEATH PROJECTOR WON'T BE 100 PERCENT EFFICIENT--
HOWEVER, SHOULD FUNCTION MOST OF THE POPULATION
THAT'S OUR POP.
I'LL START UP!


BUT BEFORE THE EVIL GENIUS CAN ACTIVATE HIS DEVILISH DEVICE...
KARASH
YIII! THE BIG RED CHEESE!
UP TO YOUR OLD TRICKS, EH, SIVANA?
AND YOU'RE UP TO YOURS, CURSE YOU!
KARUNCH
GO ON--GET IT OVER WITH! HIT ME!
NOT NECESSARY! THE AUTHORITIES WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU AND YOUR OAFISH OFFSPRING!
AND I DON'T THINK YOU'LL GET A SUSPENDED SENTENCE!
YAHHH... SMART ALECK!
IS THAT ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY, YOU BIG RED CHEESE?
NO... THERE'S ONE MORE THING---
IT'S GREAT TO BE ALIVE! RIGHT, SIVANA?
RIGHT!
10
NEXT ISSUE: THE RETURN OF THE NEFARIOUS MR. MIND! DON'T DARE MISS IT!

SHAZAM & SON

The Story of the World's Mightiest Mortal **By E. Nelson Bridwell**

"You are my son, Captain Marvel!"

So old *Shazam* said once, in a story in *Whiz Comics*. And, in a way, it was true—for the ancient wizard had passed on his powers to *Billy Batson* when he died and his spirit went to dwell on the *Rock of Eternity*.

But the original *Captain Marvel* was also the brainchild of several other men, who together created the best-selling comic magazine hero of all time.

It began when a writer named Bill Parker turned out an idea for a hero named *Captain Thunder*. He was to combine the powers of six great gods and heroes, and he would debut in the first issue of a new magazine, *Whiz Comics*. Artist Charles Clarence Beck was chosen to illustrate the first adventure of *Captain Thunder*, and it was he who designed the red-and-gold costume of the hero. (Happily, Beck is back with this first issue of *Shazam!*)

But then, for some reason, accounts vary, it was decided to change the name from *Thunder* to —something else. I have heard Pete Costanza tell of the editorial meeting called to select the new name. For a while, they threw around various names. At last, Pete suggested "Captain Marvelous." Close, but someone wisely decided to lop off the "ous" and make it simply *Captain Marvel*. A few years later, Pete would be one of the top *Captain Marvel* artists; I suspect the reprint in this issue is Costanza's work.

A black-and-white issue of *Whiz #1* had already been printed for the purpose of securing a copyright. Although the only change in the issue was in the name of the lead feature's hero, when it finally hit the newsstands, in color, it was *Whiz #2* (dated February, 1940).

Not since *Superman* had a hero so captured the imaginations of readers. Soon, in addition to the *Whiz* appearances, *Captain Marvel* was starring in his own magazine, *Captain Marvel Adventures*, which soon became the top-selling comic magazine in history. In time it went from quarterly publication to monthly, to every third Friday—to every other Friday!

In the very first *Captain Marvel* tale, a mysterious scientist was using a mysterious power to knock all radio stations off the air—and demanding a high ransom to free the air-waves. By chance, *Billy Batson* discovered the headquarters of the scientist (none other than *Sivana* himself!) and told *Sterling Morris*, owner of radio station *WHIZ*. But *Morris* was so sure *Billy* was wrong that he promised to give him a job as a radio announcer if his information led to the villain's capture. Well, *Billy* used his new powers as *Captain Marvel* to capture *Sivana*, and *Morris* kept his word. *Billy* became a radio announcer and newscaster. *WHIZ* added TV early in 1946—well before NBC and CBS.

There were other members added to the *Marvel Family* as time went on, notably *Freddy Freeman*, crippled newsboy, whose life *Captain Marvel* saved by giving him some of his powers, so he became *Captain Marvel, Jr.*; and *Mary Batson*, who found a long-lost brother and the power to become *Mary Marvel* on the same historic day. More of them in this department next issue.

From time to time, new characters were introduced into the *Marvel* saga. Some of these are shown at the bottom of page 8 in this issue's second story. The diagram on this page will help you follow the list below, which gives a rundown on these friends of the *Marvels*.

1. *Uncle Dudley*. This is the lovable, old fraud who pretends to change into a Marvel—Uncle Marvel—by saying "Shazam!" Actually, he strips off his outer clothes to reveal a home-made costume! As president of *Shazam, Inc.*, he raises money for charity.

2. *Miss Joan Jameson*, *Billy's* —and *Captain Marvel's*—secretary. She accidentally saw *Billy* slip away to change to *Captain Marvel*, and convinced him that a good secretary could save him some trouble and still conceal his identity.

3. *Sterling Morris*, owner of station *WHIZ*.

4. *Cissie Sommerly*, *Billy's* girl friend.

5. *Pa Potter*, *Billy's* landlord. *Billy* rented an apartment in his home.

6. *Ma Potter*.

7. *Prof. Edgewise*, eccentric scientific genius who lives in the same boarding house as *Freddy Freeman*.

8. *Beautia Sivana*, older daughter of *Captain Marvel's* arch-enemy. The difference between her and sister *Georgia* is that *Beautia* is not only beautiful on the outside but basically good on the inside, as well . . . while *Georgia* resembles her father both physically and mentally. *Beautia* has a crush on *Captain Marvel*.

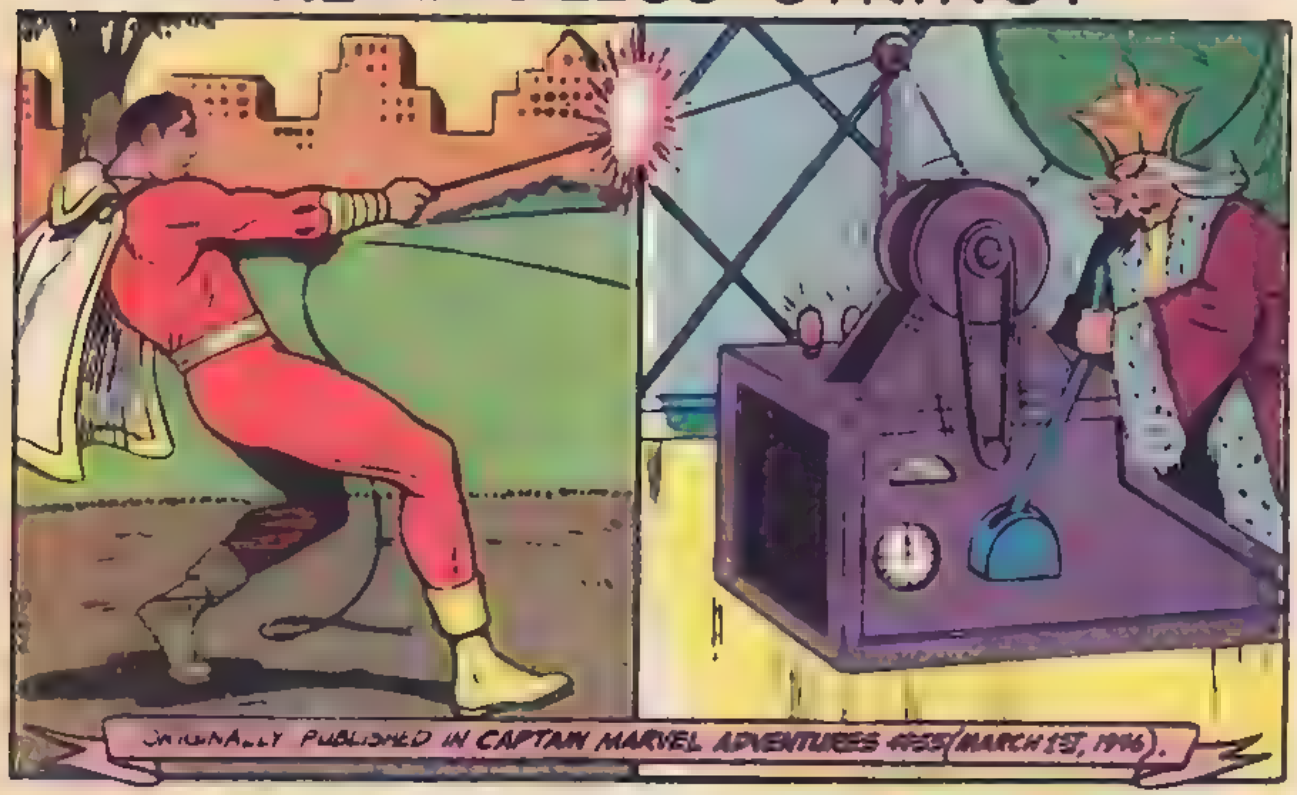
9. *Mr. Tawky Tawny*, the talking tiger. *Mr. Tawny* was an ordinary tiger once—except he'd been raised as a boy's pet. Later an old hermit who'd invented a serum to raise the intelligence of animals and give them the power of speech, tried it on *Tawny*. Once he became as smart as a human the tiger began learning about civilization and finally decided to see what it was like. He wound up working as a museum guide, while living in his own suburban home.

There you have it—a brief background on the *World's Mightiest Mortal*, as he has been dubbed. By the way, in the future, we plan to devote this space to your letters. Only trouble is, we have no suitable title for our letters department. How about sending in your suggestions? The best will be chosen, and the reader who submits it will get a special acknowledgement in *Shazam!* Write to SHAZAM, National Periodical Publications, 909 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

SHAZAM!

PRESENTS A GOLDEN AGE CLASSIC FEATURING THE ORIGINAL CAPTAIN MARVEL

THE ENDLESS STRING!



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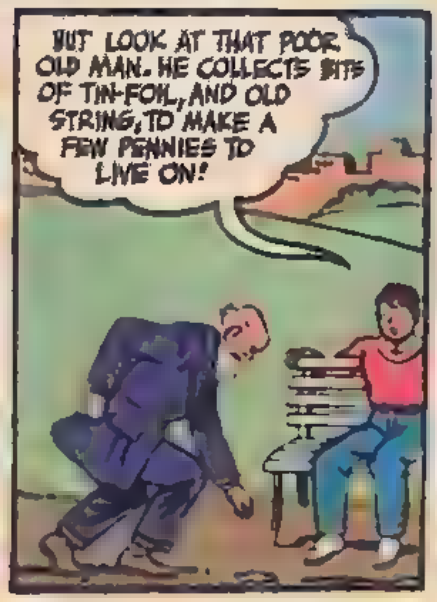


SHAZAM!

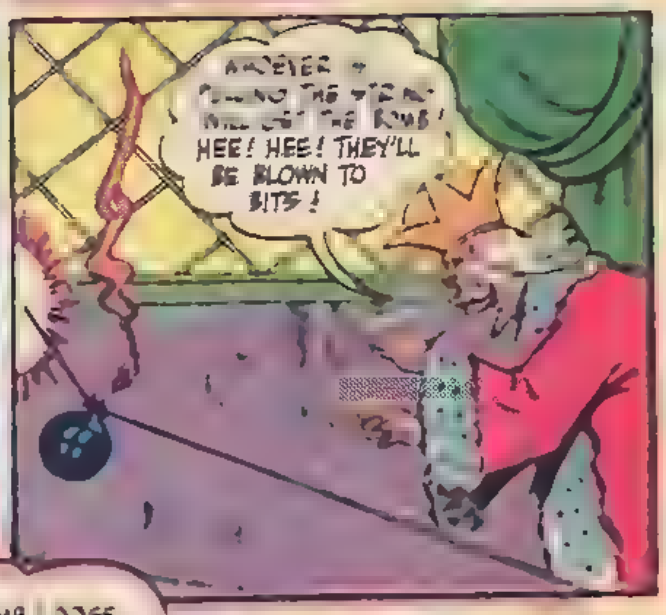
HEY, HASN'T THIS STRING ANY END? THE MORE I WIND UP, THE MORE THERE IS. IT KEEPS COMING!
THE STRANGE STRING SEEMINGLY HAS NO END!
HOLY MOLEY! WHERE IS ALL THAT STRING COMING FROM?
I DON'T KNOW, SONNY. AND I DON'T CARE. HAH LOTS OF STRING!
BUT IT CAN'T JUST COME FROM NOWHERE! EVERY STRING HAS TWO ENDS. WHAT'S AT THE OTHER END OF IT?
LITTLE DOGS BILLY REALIZE THAT THE QUEER STRING REACHES INTO ANOTHER DIMENSION, AND INTO THE PALACE OF THE KING OF ZOOZLAND!
MY RUG! WHO IS UNWINDING MY ROYAL RUG?
I CAN'T HOLD IT BACK. I WOULDN'T MIND IF IT WAS ORDINARY RUG WOOL. BUT THIS IS MY SPECIAL PLASTIC THREAD, STRONGER THAN STEEL! IT'S EXPENSIVE. GUARDS! GUARDS!
ALTOGETHER NOW-- PULL!
BACK ON EARTH...
YIII!
SOMEBODY IS PULLING THE STRING BACK!
SHAZAM!
IN A FLASH OF MAGIC LIGHTNING, THE MYSTIC WORD CHANGES BILLY TO MIGHTY CAPTAIN MARVEL!
BOOM!
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING
2

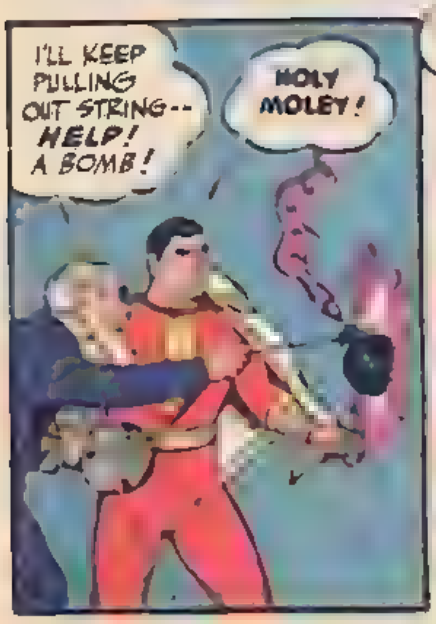
SHAZAM!

AND THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL ENTERS THE STRANGE TUG-OF-WAR!
THEY CAN'T DO THIS TO YOU, OLD MAN! I'LL YANK RIGHT BACK!

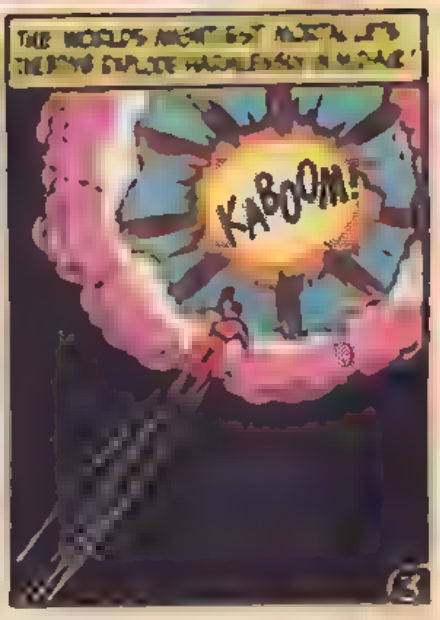
AND IN ZOOLAND..
HORRORS! SOME TERRIBLE GIANT MUST BE PULLING AT THE OTHER END!
HEY!
OOF!
UGH!

I MUST USE STRATEGY... HMMM. AH! I HAVE IT! BRING ME A BOMB!
YES SIRE!


WHOEVER IS PULLING THE OTHER END WILL GET THE BOMB!
HEE! HEE! THEY'LL BE BLOWN TO BITS!


I'LL KEEP PULLING OUT STRING-- HELP! A BOMB!
HOLY MOLEY!

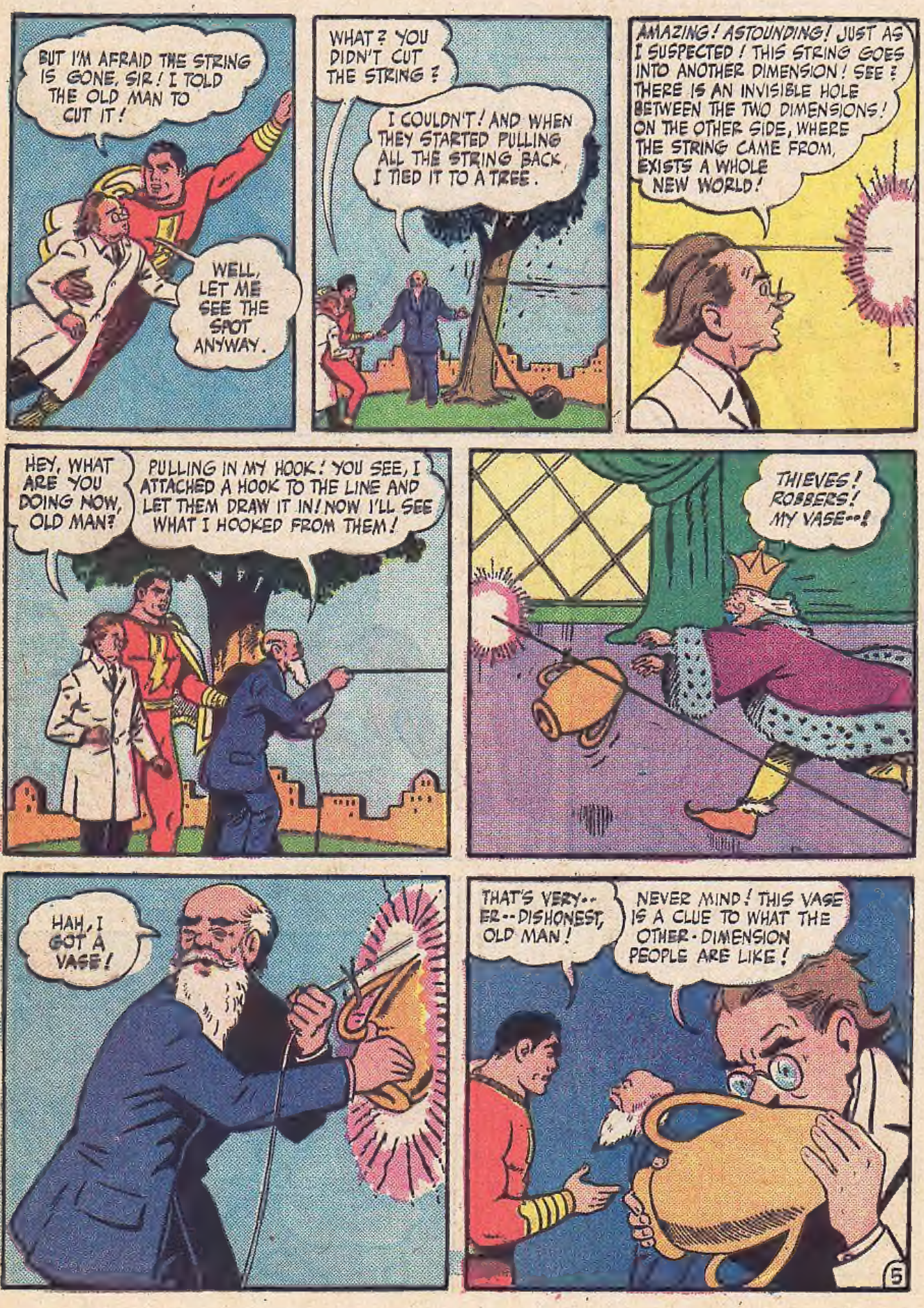
I HAVE THE BOMB LOOSE BUT I HAVE ABOUT ONE SECOND NOW TO FLY UP WITH IT!


THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL LETS THE BOMB EXPLODE HARMLESSLY IN MIDAIR!
KABOOM!

THE ENDLESS STRING

THANKS! NOW I CAN KEEP IT MORE STRONG!
NO, THAT WON'T DO MAN!
LOOK THIS IS DANGEROUS AND WILL GET YOU INTO MORE TROUBLE YOU'VE GOT ENOUGH STRING CUT THE REST OFF AND BE SATISFIED
WELL--IF YOU SAY SO, CAPT. MARVEL.
NOW I'M GOING TO SEE THE FAMOUS SCIENTIST DR. GREAN AND FIND OUT THE ANSWER TO THE CRAZY MYSTERY!
BUT WHEN CAPT MARVEL HAS GONE.
WHAT? NO KNIFE CAN SCORE THAT STRING IS LIKE A STEEL CABLE
SNAP!!
AND NOW THEY'RE COMING BACK AND HAVE GOT MY WHOLE BALL! I'VE GOT TO STOP THEM
THERE! LET'S SEE THEM PULL A TREE OUT BY THE ROOTS
MEANWHILE, CAPT MARVEL HAS TOLD THE STORY TO DR GREAN
GREAT SCOTT! NO SAY THE STRING SEEMS TO HANG IN MID AIR AND KEEPS GROWING FROM NOWHERE? I MUST SEE THIS REMARKABLE PHENOMENON! TAKE ME THERE!
OKAY SIR
4

THE ENDLESS STRING


BUT I'M AFRAID THE STRING IS GONE, SIR! I TOLD THE OLD MAN TO CUT IT!
WELL, LET ME SEE THE SPOT ANYWAY.
WHAT? YOU DIDN'T CUT THE STRING?
I COULDN'T! AND WHEN THEY STARTED PULLING ALL THE STRING BACK, I TIED IT TO A TREE.
AMAZING! ASTOUNDING! JUST AS I SUSPECTED! THIS STRING GOES INTO ANOTHER DIMENSION! SEE? THERE IS AN INVISIBLE HOLE BETWEEN THE TWO DIMENSIONS! ON THE OTHER SIDE, WHERE THE STRING CAME FROM, EXISTS A WHOLE NEW WORLD!
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW, OLD MAN?
PULLING IN MY HOOK! YOU SEE, I ATTACHED A HOOK TO THE LINE AND LET THEM DRAW IT IN! NOW I'LL SEE WHAT I HOOKED FROM THEM!
THIEVES! ROBBERS! MY VASE--!
HAH, I GOT A VASE!
THAT'S VERY-- ER-- DISHONEST, OLD MAN!
NEVER MIND! THIS VASE IS A CLUE TO WHAT THE OTHER-DIMENSION PEOPLE ARE LIKE!
5

SHAZAM!

LET ME USE MY GREAT DEDUCTIVE POWERS! AH, YES -- THE OTHER-DIMENSION PEOPLE HAVE FIVE ARMS, TWO HEADS AND SIX EYES! AND GREEN HAIR!
GOSH, WHAT MONSTERS THEY MUST BE!

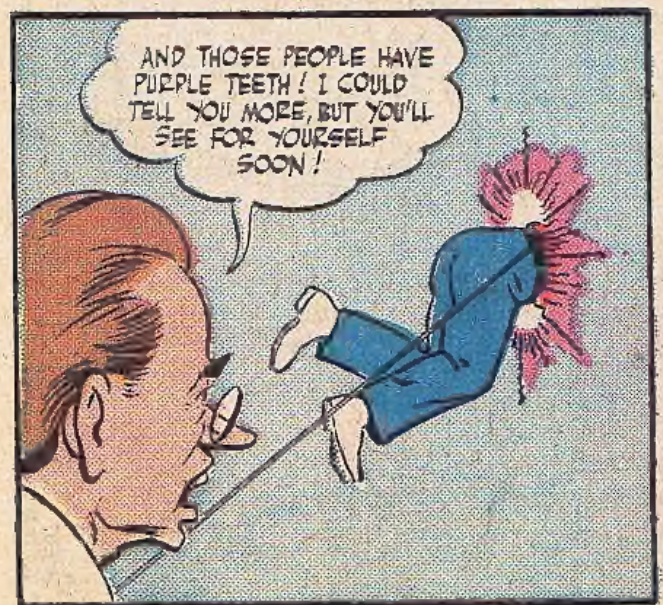
SUDDENLY...
HEY, THE OLD MAN--!
HELP! THE HOOK CAUGHT MY COLLAR! THEY'RE PULLING ME IN!

IN ZOOZLAND...
AHA! WE HAVE THE CULPRIT! HE WILL BE TORTURED FOR DARING TO STEAL FROM THE KING OF ZOOZLAND!

THE OLD MAN'S GONE! I'LL FOLLOW HIM INTO THE OTHER DIMENSION -- OOF!
YOUR SHOULDERS ARE TOO BROAD. YOU CAN'T GET IN, CAPT. MARVEL!

NO, BUT BILLY CAN -- SHAZAM!

BOOM!


AND THOSE PEOPLE HAVE PURPLE TEETH! I COULD TELL YOU MORE, BUT YOU'LL SEE FOR YOURSELF SOON!

BILLY BATSON CRAWLS THROUGH THE STRANGE HOLE BETWEEN DIMENSIONS AND EMERGES INTO ZOOZLAND!
ANOTHER ONE? SEIZE HIM, TOO!
6

THE ENDLESS STRING

NOW, SHAZ-- UGGG!
I GOT THE BOY, TOO, SIRE!
POW!
LATER..
THIEVES! BANDITS! IT IS THE LAW OF THIS LAND THAT ROBBERS WILL HAVE THEIR TONGUES BURNT OUT!
HOLY MOLEY! YOU WOULDN'T THINK ALL THIS COULD BE CAUSED BY A LITTLE BIT OF STRING, THAT THE OLD MAN PICKED UP FROM THE GROUND!
NOW! I WILL BURN OUT YOUR TONGUE!
HE LOWERED MY GAG--- SHAZAM!
ONCE MORE, CAPT. MARVEL CARRIES ON FOR BILLY!
LET ME DO THE POKING, PAL!
NOW YOU'RE FREE, TOO, OLD MAN!
BUT LOOK-- ALL THE GUARDS ARE ATTACKING!
SO WHAT?
7

SHAZAM!

NOW LET'S GET BACK TO EARTH, WHERE WE BELONG! YOU FIRST, OLD MAN, AND THEN ME--SHAZAM!
SAFE!
MY STRING!
IT ISN'T YOUR STRING, SIR! IT'S RIGHTFULLY THEIRS. ANYWAY, WE DON'T WANT ANY MORE CONTACT WITH THOSE PEOPLE. WITHOUT THE STRING TO MARK THE PLACE, NOBODY WILL FIND THE HOLE AGAIN!
NEXT TIME YOU PICK UP SOME STRING, OLD MAN, BE CAREFUL WHAT IT'S ATTACHED TO!
AS FOR THOSE PEOPLE, DR. GRENN, THEY WERE PERFECTLY HUMAN!
I MADE--ER---A--SLIGHT ERROR!
--AND THAT, FOLKS, WAS THE ADVENTURE OF THE ENDLESS STRING! FUNNY WHAT A LITTLE BIT OF STRING CAN LEAD TO AT TIMES, ISN'T IT? 'BYE NOW!
THE END
8

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE ON OR ABOUT FEB. 15TH

BY POPULAR DEMAND!

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